

# China Mail

ESTABLISHED  
1840

**N. LAZARUS**  
**RALPH A. COOPER**  
Manager.

**PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.**

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 TO DANCE**  
 FROM THE  
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## DODWELL &amp; COMPANY, LTD.

## NEW YORK BIRTH

S.S. "CORBY CASTLE" ... Sails 30th January

## LLOYD TRIESTINO

REGULAR MONTHLY PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE  
FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE (TRIUM).  
TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO  
GENOA, ALL ITALIAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANT, BLACK  
SEA AND DANUBE PORTS.  
REDUCED PASSAGE RATES TO BRINDISI, VENICE  
OR TRIESTE.  
**£66.**

## NEXT SAILINGS.

OUTWARD FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE &amp; MANILA

M.V. "ESQUILINO" ... Sails 30th January  
S.S. "VENEZIA" ... Sails 30th February

## HOMeward FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE.

M.V. "VIMINALE" ... Sails 31st December  
M.V. "ESQUILINO" ... Sails 31st January  
S.S. "VENEZIA" ... Sails 15th March

## NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

FROM CALCUTTA &amp; COLOMBO TO SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

S.S. "UMSINGA" ... Sails from Calcutta 30th December  
Sails from Colombo 19th January  
S.S. "UMVOLOSI" ... Sails from Calcutta 31st January  
Sails from Colombo 10th February

Regular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports. Through Bills of Lading issued from Hongkong.

For Freight or Passage on any of the above Lines apply to—  
Telephone Central 1934. DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

## AMERICAN PIONEER LINE

for  
Havana, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York,  
Boston via Panama Canal.  
Calling at Panama and other Gulf Ports if inducements offer.  
For Freight and further particulars apply to

## AMERICAN PIONEER LINE

Operated for United States Shipping Board

by  
ATLANTIC, GULF AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP CO.  
ADMIRAL ORIENTAL LINE—Agents  
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Building  
Telephone Nos. 2477, 2478 and 795

## O. S. K.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO AUTHORIZATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM &amp; ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Java and Port Said.

ATLAS MARU ... Sails 7th January

S.S. "JANAKO" ... Sails 14th January

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## NOTICE TO SHIPPERS AND PASSENGERS

## PROJECTED DEPARTURES

## TAKAO.

Dec. 31—O.S.K. Kotu Maru

Jan. 1—O.S.K. Soubayama Maru

Jan. 2—O.S.K. Kobo Maru

Dec. 31—O.S.K. Kancho Maru

Jan. 1—O.S.K. Kobo Maru

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## JAPAN PORTS

Dec. 31—O.S.K. Kotu Maru

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# P. & O.-British India Apcar and Eastern & Australian Lines

(COMPANIES incorporated in ENGLAND).  
MAIL AND PASSENGER STEAMERS.

## TAKING CARGO FOR

STRAITS, JAVA, BURMA, CEYLON, INDIA, PERSIAN GULF,  
WEST INDIES, MAURITIUS, EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA,  
AUSTRALASIA, INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND AND  
QUEENSLAND PORTS, AND RED SEA, EGYPT,  
CONSTANTINOPLE, GREECE, LEVANTINE  
PORTS, EUROPE, &c.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL FORTNIGHTLY  
DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.  
(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

S. S.	Tons	From HONGKONG (ABOUT)	Destination
"MAEDONIA"	11,088	9th Jan.	Marseilles and London
"KHYBER"	8,114	16th Jan.	Milos, Corfu, Athens, London & Antwerp
"LAHORE"	8,114	23rd Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	30th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	6th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	13th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	20th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	27th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	6th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	13th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	20th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	27th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	3rd Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	10th Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	17th Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	24th Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	1st May	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	8th May	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	15th May	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	22nd May	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	29th May	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	5th Jun.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	12th Jun.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	19th Jun.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	26th Jun.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	3rd Jul.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	10th Jul.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	17th Jul.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	24th Jul.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	31st Jul.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	7th Aug.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	14th Aug.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	21st Aug.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	28th Aug.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	4th Sep.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	11th Sep.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	18th Sep.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	25th Sep.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	2nd Oct.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	9th Oct.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	16th Oct.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	23rd Oct.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	30th Oct.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	6th Nov.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	13th Nov.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"ALFORD"	8,114	20th Nov.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"DELTA"	8,114	27th Nov.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"MALWA"	8,114	4th Dec.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KARNATA"	8,114	11th Dec.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KASHMIR"	8,114	18th Dec.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"KHYBER"	8,114	25th Dec.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay
"LAHORE"	8,114	1st Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Bombay

Frequent connection from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantinople, Piræus, Smyrna and other Levant ports by steamers of the Khedival Mail Steamship Co.

### BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS

"TALMA"	10,000	5th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"TAKADA"	8,945	12th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"SANTHA"	8,945	19th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

### EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

"ABAPORA"	6,000	6th Jan.	Manila, Sunda, Thursday Island
"ST. ALBANS"	6,000	13th Jan.	Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne
"TANDA"	6,000	20th Jan.	do
"ANAPURA"	6,000	27th Jan.	do
"ST. ALBANS"	6,000	3rd Feb.	do
"TANDA"	6,000	10th Feb.	do

The E. & A. S.S. Co., Ltd. steamers will also call at Shanghai, Hio, Cebu, Cebu, Manila, Sunda, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. The Union S.S. Company's steamers to the United Kingdom via New Zealand & Australia, San Francisco etc. The E. & A. S.S. Co. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal. The E. & A. S.S. Co. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal. The E. & A. S.S. Co. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal. The E. & A. S.S. Co. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal.

### SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

1896.			
"HYMETTUS"	4,600	7th Jan.	Yokohama, Kobe and Shanghai.
"MALWA"	10,941	14th Jan.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"JELTA"	8,097	21st Jan.	Shanghai and Kobe.
"ST. ALBANS"	6,000	28th Jan.	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.
"ANTHIA"	8,600	13th Jan.	Shanghai and Kobe.
"KARMALA"	9,129	23rd Jan.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"MANTHA"	10,932	14th Jan.	Yokohama, Moji and Kobe.
"KASHMIR"	9,936	11th Feb.	Shanghai and Kobe.
"ANDA"	9,938	12th Feb.	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.
"KIBYA"	8,125	20th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"MOREA"	10,911	8th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"ALFURA"	8,600	15th Mar.	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.
"BALYAN"	9,144	20th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"ORANHA"	10,156	20th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"MADONIA"	11,089	3rd April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"ST. ALBANS"	6,603	10th April	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.
"KASHMIR"	9,005	10th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"RHYMER"	9,114	20th April	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"ANDA"	9,938	31st May	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.
"MALWA"	10,941	14th May	Shanghai.
"MANTHA"	10,931	22nd May	Shanghai.
"KARMALA"	9,068	17th June	Shanghai, Moji and Kobe.
"ALFURA"	9,008	12th June	Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.



## WATSON'S CELEBRATED DRY GINGER ALE

Its unique "dryness" delightful aroma and rich flavour are features which give this beverage the IMMENSE POPULARITY it deserves.

It has been repeatedly declared by travellers, tourists and others, that WATSON'S DRY GINGER ALE is UNEQUALLED by any similar product throughout the World.

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.**  
AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

## ARRIVED NEW VICTOR RECORDS



**S. MOUTRIE & CO., LTD.**  
Victor Distributors

### The China Mail

(Every evening except Sunday.  
Annual subscription, excluding  
postage abroad, H.K. \$30, payable  
in advance. Local delivery free.)

### Overland China Mail.

(The weekly edition of the "China  
Mail." Annual subscription, H.K.  
\$15 including postage \$15, payable  
in advance.)

Published by

The Newspaper Enterprise, Ltd.

Printers & Publishers

No. 5, WYNDHAM ST., HONGKONG

Telephone Central 22 & 4641.

Cable Address—Mail, Hongkong.

All communications should be  
addressed to the Newspaper Enter-  
prise, Ltd., to whom all remittances  
should be made payable.

London Office:—The Far Eastern  
Advertising Agency (London),  
Ltd., 24, Devonshire Street,  
Bloomsbury, W.C.1.

Hongkong, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1925.

### LACK OF AIM.

It will be remembered that when Mr. Enery 'Awkins asked his "donah" to become Mrs. 'Enery 'Awkins she was coy.

"First she said she wouldn't."

And then she said she couldn't.

And then she said she thought she'd see."

Ninety-nine hundredths of the

human race pass from the cradle

to the grave without ever knowing

exactly what they want, nor how

to get it. The few who do know

become Napoleons, and Caesars, and

captains of industry, and

members of select clubs. But the

plague which afflicts humanity, all

but the great strong souls who

succeed, is not lack of intelligence

but lack of aim. Corporate bodies

are not exempt from the opera-

tions of this malady of the will.

There was the army of the King

of France which marched up the

hill and marched down again, and

was no doubt soundly trounced

after its half-hearted exhibition.

There is no corporate body in the

Colony to be compared with a

Municipal Council; and we should

think twice before suggesting that

in many things the Government

has lacked aim. It is the individ-

ual who must face the charge.

Not in lacking aim in the pursuit

of his own idea's, fancies and

fame but in the field of what has

now come to be called "better

understanding." There has been

no lack of aim in the corporate

sense. The Government is bene-

volent in its attitude and in its

labours. There is no need to stoop

to argument to defend or prove

the statement. But it is very

much open to question if in the

daily contact of peoples there has

been the desire to appraise rightly

and appreciate fully. The state-

ment cuts both ways. It would ill

become us to apportion the blame

to one side only. The position is

difficult. There is the proverbial

courtesy and kindness of the

Chinese people. The more robust

and vigorous hold on life of the

foreigner. But it should not be

impossible to find a way to bridge

what after all is not an insuper-

able gulf. Opportunity, as the

old Roman said, is "bald behind."

—you cannot snatch it back once

it has passed. But this "bald

understanding" opportunity has

now been snatched the daily

contact of peoples.

quite lost all its hair. There remains some left to be grasped, and grasped it should be by those who recognise that just as Judy O'Grady and the Squire's lady are the same under the skin, so there is in Chinese and foreigners alike some ground of common contact which seen, understood, and cemented, will tend to make not merely for the glory of a place, but for the happiness and contentment of a diverse people with a diversity of gifts, but with the same spirit—the spirit of a desire to see and understand.

### Propaganda.

When Sir R. E. Stubbs, at the luncheon in his honour at the Colonial Institute on December 16, reviewed the conflict between Hongkong and Canton, it was felt that real good would eventuate in the direction of enlightening the public at home. Most naturally Reuter contented itself with cabling a mere summary of his speech; and a summary is often a dangerous way on which to hang criticism. This fact seems to have been forgotten by the "Japan Chronicle," which went out of its way to belittle the speech made by our late Governor. It refers to his remarks upon the troubles that commenced in June of this year, and seems incredible that Sir Reginald should have said that "the Russian influence began to work after Sun Yat-sen's death." A more careful perusal of the cabled summary should have shown our contemporary that Sir Reginald was much more concise than that. What he did say was, firstly, that "the troubles in Hongkong were started by Russian agitators from Canton, who made no secret of their intention to ruin Hongkong"; and, secondly, that "the result of the death of Sun Yat-sen was that power had passed into the hands of certain persons who had neither his interests nor those of his followers." Certainly the "Japan Chronicle" admits, rather grudgingly, that "Hongkong and the British generally are being made scapegoats at present in China"; but it is adamant in refusing to discredit Bolshevism as the primary cause. Which, again, serves to show the need for propaganda not only amongst the public at home, but amongst the newspapers much nearer Hongkong than London.

### THEY SAY THAT—

As a rule the State spends a great deal of the taxpayers' money with the minimum result.—Sir A. Mond, M.P.

I give you my word that we shall defend the franc with the same constancy as we defended Verdun.—M. Painleve.

In a hundred years' time a standard dialect will be spoken all over the British Isles.—Professor Daniel Jones.

Truthfulness is part of the ideal of English gentlemen, and it is the week-day religion of the English people.—Dean Inge.

It is only by bringing home to each succeeding generation how vastly more catastrophic and disastrous modern war is to the whole population than was ever before that we can form a public opinion which will help to secure future peace.—Lord Grey of Ralston.

A Chinese boatman was sentenced to six months' hard labour at the Central Magistracy yesterday for attempted robbery of a safe from the Kwok Li shipyard.

A Chinese crook who caught the defendant while he was running away was complimented by the

Magistrate.

### "PO-ON" PIRACY.

#### ARRESTED MAN IN COURT.

#### A VICTIM'S ACCOUNT.

The story of the piracy of the steam launch "Po On" in British waters near Nam Tau in the early part of July was related at the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday when one of the alleged gang was brought before Mr. E. W. Hamilton. Accused was charged on three counts of armed robbery, holding a number of passengers for ransom, and unlawful possession of arms.

A greaser on the s.s. "Sai On" which arrived from Macao recognised the accused as one of the pirates. The man was promptly arrested by the Police. He had since been identified by four of the kidnapped passengers.

It was stated in evidence by the greaser that he was one of those kidnapped by the pirates. The launch stopped at Wan Ha (on the north side of Deep Bay) where two women came aboard. At Lik Shu eight men approached the launch by sampans and on gaining the deck produced arms. The passengers were ordered into the hold, and the launch was taken to Wan Ha, where another six pirates joined the gang. The launch was then taken to Sha Cheng, where the passengers were robbed of their valuables and 28 of them were taken ashore and into the interior. Witness was ten days in the hands of the pirates before he escaped during an attack by the village volunteers on the pirates' den.

After further evidence the case was adjourned.

### AMBULANCE DRILL.

#### LOCAL INTER-COMPANY TESTS.

The annual competition in general Ambulance work of the St. John Ambulance Brigade took place on Sunday, fourteen "Sections" from the Saiyungpun, Chinese Y.M.C.A., Kowloon-Canton Railway, and Indian Divisions, competing. The Judges were Dr. W. V. M. Koch (District Surgeon of the Brigade), Sir Eric Stuart Taylor, and Major Stevenson, R.A.M.C. The men were given a strenuous test, and in making their award the Judges took into consideration—

1. Dress and equipment of men.
2. Stretcher drill.
3. Neatness, accuracy and finish of work.
4. Time taken in completing a case.
5. Improvisation (where possible).

Marks were allotted as below:—

Y.M.C.A. Division	325
Indian Division	314
Railway Division	310
Saiyungpun Division	305

The Shield is awarded accordingly, to the Y.M.C.A. Division. Mention should be made of the work of the Railway Division which, while not adopting the ordinary routine drill, has developed a scheme specially adapted to the work the men are often called on to perform in connection with the Railway.

### POLICE RAID.

#### GAMBLERS CAUGHT AT WEST POINT.

Armed with a warrant, a party of Chinese detectives raided a gambling den at No. 246, Des Vaux Road West, first floor, at 8 p.m. last night. One of the detectives watched the progress of the gambling for a few minutes before the signal was given to the others to enter the floor. Altogether 17 persons were caught.

Evidence was given by one of the raiding party when the men were charged at the Central Magistracy this morning and fines of \$3 each were imposed on 13 of them who were present. The others had their \$5 bail money estranged. An additional charge of keeping a common gaming house against the first defendant was not proved, and he was acquitted on this count.

### THE NEW YEAR.

A time signal according to the Manila code, will be flashed by lamps on the wireless mast at the Observatory from 11:35 p.m. till midnight on December 31. The last flash will indicate the end of the year 1925 and the beginning of the year 1926.

### HELPS THOSE HARD COUGHS.

The danger of influenza is always to be feared, and it is especially so when the weather is so cold and the air so dry. Up and down the street, the cough is heard, and the sufferer is often a Chinese junk

## SHREDS AND PATCHES.

Dec. 1925—Jan. 1926.  
A CALENDAR.  
23, Mon., Lord Macaulay died, 1859.

29, Tues., W. E. Gladstone born, 1809.

30, Wed., Rudyard Kipling born, 1865.

31, Thurs., Leon Gambetta died, 1882.

1, Fri., Old Age Pensions started, 1909.

2, Sat., Sir George Airey died, 1892.

3, Sun., Douglas Jerrold born, 1803.

The present gen-

THE GRAND, station has no

OLD MAN, statesman raised on

the working people erected for a

score of years to William Ewart

Gladstone. Mr. Lloyd George

was a national hero even bigger,

but that was during the war.

Mr. Gladstone was one of those

rare men who do not narrow with

age. Nobody could ever say of

him: "Ah! he was a fine Radical

once, but now—" Right to the

end he was a fighter, and he

fought for causes in which the

masses believed.

Most of the things for which

he fought are won. The causes

with which the Liberalism of the

eighties was associated are for

the most part buried in Acts of

Parliament, though the need for

the Liberal spirit can never die.

One wonders sometimes what the

Grand Old Man would think of

the Liberal benches to-day.

Those who have only

MISUNDER- a nodding acquaint-

STANDING- ance with mission-

aries and their

work in China, would hesitate to

suggest that some of them inter-

fere in the politics of the country.

Very often they are indirectly, if

not directly, responsible for the

suggestion as the following may

prove. A Chinese Christian

pastor is placed in charge of a

district. A village in that district

may suffer unjustly at the hands

of bandits. Members of the

pastor's flock make representa-

tions to him. He takes the mat-

ter up with the District Magis-

trate, and getting no satisfaction

it goes to the Yamen. Both the

Yamen and the Magistrate do not

wish to be bothered. The Over-

seeing missionary is dragged into

the matter and probably a consul

is also compelled to interfere.

And "these dashed missionaries"

are probably cursed right and left

as people who come and upset the

established custom of things

which has existed for centuries.

This may not be called politics—

but anyone desiring to decry mis-

sionaries will soon put any

desired misconception upon the

matter.

Another thing—the

AGAIN, work of missionaries is

often applauded by

Magistrates and Governors who

perhaps make concessions, gifts,

etc., to show their appreciation.

The enemies of these officials, do

not forget these actions, and when

the time comes to advance their

own ends, and cause, twist the

actions to suit themselves. Mis-

sionaries suffer again.

Some missionaries

are accused of

MISSIONARIES, trading. It is

forgotten that

there are industrial missions as

well as educational and medical,

where the work of natives is sold.

There may be missionaries who

sell things and thus support them-

selves or their work. Very often,

in the inland stations, when it is

known a foreign missionary is to

pay a visit to a big town, he re-

ceives requests from villagers to

visit the big stores or offices to

buy bits of merchandise. In these

cases it is possible for the action

of missionaries to be miscon-

strued, and for the term "trading

missionaries" to be used.

How many, the Shreds

A BOOK, man wonders, sighed

for a book as a gift

this Christmas. How many, he

wonders, got a book, and how

many got the book that satisfied

the sort of book that Dorothy

Wordsworth in a letter to Cole-

ridge sighed for—

Yes, do send me a book

for my birthday. Not a bar-

gain book, bought from a

haberdasher, but a beautiful

book, a book to cherish—

peculiar, distinctive, individual;

a book that hath first caught

your eye and then pleased your

fancy, written by an author

with a tender whim, all right

out of his heart. We will read

it together (in the gloaming,

and when the gathering dusk



## INDIAN CONGRESS.

SERIOUS SPLIT AMONG  
SWARAJISTS.

SIGNIFICANT RESIGNATIONS.

(Reuter's Service.)

Cawnpore, Dec. 28.  
The concluding day of the Indian Congress was marked by a long and heated debate, in which, although the Swarajist political programme was adopted, a serious split in the Swarajist ranks was revealed.

This culminated in the resignation of the ex-members of the Legislature, Jayakar (Bombay), Montee (Central Provinces), and Kelkar (Deputy Leader of the Swarajists in the Assembly) on the plea that they would thereby liberate themselves from the Swarajist obligation and be free to propagate views for responsible co-operation and acceptance of office.

The Congress adopted Pandit Motilal Nehru's resolution in favour of non-co-operation in the Legislature.

Pandit Malaviya feared that the Congress was being handed over to a handful of Swarajists who had not kept their word in the past and could not keep it in the future.

Lalal Patil regarded the outlook as very pessimistic. In spite of a contrary desire they were being driven unconsciously towards co-operation.

## RUSSIAN OUTRAGE.

ATTRIBUTED TO ROVING  
BANDS.

NOTHING SERIOUS.

(Reuter's Service.)

London, December 28.  
Diplomatic circles in London do not regard the report of the Russian attack north-east of Afghanistan very seriously. They attribute it to roving bands not controlled by Moscow or any Central Government. It is pointed out that the region of the river Oxus has been the scene of raids for many months.

[An Almaty message published yesterday stated:—Newspapers at Kabul report that Russian troops suddenly and unprovokedly attacked and captured the Afghan post of Dardak in Badakshan and occupied the surrounding territory.]

## FRENCH POLITICS.

EVIDENCE OF RIFT IN  
THE LUTE.

OFFICIAL DEMOCRAT DEPART.

(Reuter's Service.)

Paris, December 28.  
The instability of the political situation is further reflected in the election of a member of the Democratic Left Party as President of the Senate Finance Commission, defeating M. Clemenceau, the Democrats' official nominee. The group called upon M. Lacroix to resign, but he refused.

## "WILSON DAY."

BIG CELEBRATIONS IN  
AMERICA.

NEW STAMP ON SALE.

(Reuter's American Service.)

New York, December 28.  
Ex-President Wilson's birthday was celebrated in the cities and towns from coast to coast.

The Post Office commemorated the occasion by placing on sale a seventeen-cent Wilson Memorial stamp.

## OIL CONTROL.

NEW MEXICAN ACT IN  
OPERATION.

(Reuter's American Service.)

Mexico City, December 28.  
A Presidential decree has put the Petroleum Act into operation.

[A cablegram of December 21 stated:—Parliament has passed the Petroleum Bill, which gives Government inalienable dominion over all gas, oil, and mineral deposits but the Bill is not retrospective.]

The estimated civil population of the Colony at the middle of 1924 was 799,550 (16,000 non-Chinese and 783,550 Chinese). The total shows an increase of 173,784 over that of the census of 1921.

## KUO'S FATE.

HEAD EXHIBITED IN  
PUBLIC.

BARBARITY CONDEMNED.

(Reuter's Service.)

Tokyo, December 28.  
A Foreign Office message from Mukden states that Marshal Chang's son has demanded that the Japanese Consul-General should order the Consul at Hainanfu to give up eight of General Kuo's civil officials who are taking refuge in the Consulate there, but this request was refused as it is understood that Marshal Chang intends executing them.

The Consul-General is arranging a Japanese police escort to bring them safely to Mukden.

Though it is not confirmed officially, the Government spokesman believes the reports that the heads of Kuo and his wife were exhibited publicly in Mukden, and he expressed disgust that such barbarities had been practised.

The vernacular papers also consider the incident to be most regrettable, though they say that Kuo deserved death as a traitor.

NEW GOVERNOR.

Peking, December 27.  
A mandate has been issued appointing Marshal Feng Yu Hsiang's supporter, General Sun Yueh, as Military and Civil Governor of Chihli Province, in place of the defeated General Yu Ching-lin, whose whereabouts are unknown.

Railway and telegraphic communication has been restored between Tientsin and Peking.

CABINET RESPONSIBILITY.

Peking, December 28.  
Mandates have been issued appointing Han Shih-ying Premier and revising the regulations governing the functions of the Provisional Government, providing henceforth that the Cabinet shall be "responsible," and devise and carry out reforms in accordance with the people's wishes.

Then Chi-jui remains Chief Executive.

PRESS COMMENT.

London, December 28.  
The "Times," in a leading article, says that "if such little substitution in the most recent developments of the Chinese war, it is the fact that the success of Chiang Tse-shan means that one of the Soviet intrigues in China has miscarried. Trade continues to suffer, and industry to decay whilst China's alleged friends at Moscow continue to manipulate Chinese dissensions for their own political ends, believing that they can inflict enduring injury on the commercial interests of all capitalistic States, especially Great Britain in China."

The article refers to the obstacles to granting foreign aid in restoring order and observes that in any case no Chinese individual leader is worth British support if only because none can absolutely rely on his own soldiers and colleagues.

The "Times" adds that there is nothing in Chinese history to forbid hope in China's eventual recovery, and concludes by applauding Japanese action on the lines of the article in the "Daily Telegraph" published yesterday.

MOSCOW PRESS.

Paris, December 28.  
Commenting on events in China, the "Gaulois," after referring to endeavours on the part of the Moscow Government to supplant the Western Powers in the prestige they have acquired in Asia, concludes:—

"It is precisely this which aggravates the problem imposed by Europe's attitude of abstention in the effervescence in China. Logically, an agreement ought to be reached between the Western States to avert this peril."

MISSIONARY WORK.

London, December 28.  
The standing committee of the conference of Missionary Societies of Great Britain and Ireland has issued a statement to the effect that the Protestant Missionary Societies have reached an agreement in regard to the principles which should govern their work in China in the future. They desire to rest not upon Treaties reluctantly accepted, but upon such provisions as may be freely accorded by China as the Sovereign Power, and agreed upon in equal conference between China and Great Britain.

Willingness is expressed to accept such rights in place of extrajurisdiction as shall be accorded in a similar manner.

The Societies have expressed to the Chinese Ministry in London their appreciation of the friendship and goodwill shown to them by the officials and people of China, and their desire to work in harmony with the Chinese Government.

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## MURDER TRIAL.

DEFENCE OPENED THIS  
MORNING.

COUNSEL HINTS SURPRISE.

After the evidence in chief and cross-examination of Detective Inspector T. Murphy, Mr. L. H. V. Booth (A.S.P.) and Interpreter Ng Ping-u in the murder trial at the Sessions, Mr. Elsie Zeitlyn (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton) opened for the defence. Mr. Zeitlyn hinted that he would call evidence the nature of which would come as a surprise. He maintained that the Crown case was one of suspicion based on three circumstances, viz., absence of prisoner from his home, the story detailed by the woman who enticed him across the border, and the strong circumstances of the incriminating statement by prisoner made after arrest.

The case is proceeding.

## INFLUENZA.

LOWEST RECORD FOR  
SEVEN YEARS.

In his annual report the Medical Officer of Health states that the total number of deaths from influenza during 1924 was 52, this being the smallest figure for the last seven years.

In 1918 the total number of deaths was 406, the figure for each of the next succeeding six years being 149, 542, 303, 422, 83, and 52.

## RIFF WAR.

NEW OPERATIONS BY THE  
FRENCH.

BENNOUR THE OBJECTIVE.

(Reuter's Service.)

Rabat, December 28.  
French regulars, supported by artillery and aeroplanes, have started fresh operations in the Taza sector, having as their objective the city of Bennour.

The action is developing favourably.

## "MR. LI."

LI CHING-LIN BOUND FOR  
SHANGHAI.

(Reuter's Service.)

Chefoo, December 28.  
General Li Ching-lin has gone to Shanghai, travelling incognito as Mr. Li.

## RUBBER CONTROL.

AMERICANS' LANGUAGE  
UNRESTRAINED.

BRITAIN'S "WICKEDNESS."

(Reuter's American Service.)

Washington, Dec. 27.  
The Press and public men are growing daily more indignant and more unrestrained in their expressions in discussing Britain's "wickedness" in advancing the price of rubber.

Mr. Nicholas Longworth, Speaker of the House of Representatives, speaking at Akron, Ohio, said that there seemed to be a conspiracy among the nations producing rubber to restrict the output and increase the price. He described the restrictions as an "international swindle," and declared that Congress was seeking every means to help the American manufacturers to meet the British restrictions and competition.

LIGHTNING HAVOC.

BIG FIRE IN PETROLEUM  
DEPOT.

(Reuter's Service.)

Buenos Aires, December 28.  
Damage to the extent of five million pesos was done by fire at a petroleum depot belonging to an Italian Argentine firm. The fire is believed to have been caused by lightning, which accompanied severe storm yesterday afternoon.

Several tanks were completely destroyed. The Government rushed an assistance to prevent the spread of the conflagration endangering shipping.

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## PARIS OF TO-DAY.

THE QUARTIER LATIN  
DISAPPEARING.

There are two parts of Paris that all Britons and Americans have heard of—the Latin Quarter and Montmartre.

Ever since Henri Murger wrote his "Scenes de la Vie de Bohème," 70 years ago, Bohemia has been associated with the Quartier Latin, and the book must have drawn hundreds of thousands who had but little interest in its scholarly traditions and the Sorbonne but believed that here was to be found the picturesque life of the vagabond artist.

But nowadays visitors come, see, and go away disappointed. They say that the Quartier Latin is no more Bohemian than Passy, or Fulham for that matter; and old inhabitants, returning to scenes of former gaiety, sigh for the good old days.

The old Bohemian Latin Quarter, it is true, has gone for ever. People are cleaner, for one thing. It has been a long time dying, but the last few years heard the death rattle.

It now has "dancings" that vie with those of Montmartre, with jazz-bands and champagne. Cafés that were the haunts of Murger's and du Maurier's heroes, where Stevenson lounged, where the grisette laughed and long-haired students and immature artists made merry and barked their bills—here the stolid tradesman takes his coffee with his family and listens to classical music.

One of the last in the old tradition recently disappeared. Once you saw there politicians, famous artists and writers, poets and journalists from all countries, and of course some ordinary drunkards and night birds. Occasionally a dethroned monarch or princeling would hold his Court there. In the small, ill-lit room, where dimly through the smoke one glimpsed couples dancing to the measure of a mandolin, the fate of Ministries was solved and literary reputations made or damned. A mixed company it was that emerged into the dawn, but now the friendly gendarme at the street corner sees them, no more.

The last of the Bohemians have gone under—gone underground. In an old, narrow street, where Murger himself abode, is a small café. We descend the stone stairs, bumping our heads, and we enter a cellar; the wall hung with pictures of a decidedly modern school.

There is a roar as we enter; a chorus of uncomplimentary welcome. We sit on hard wooden stools or boxes at one wine-stained table. A poet, with long hair and flowing black tie, is reciting his own verses. A well-known chansonnier sings a song full of political allusions.

Old Pascal himself goes to the piano, Pascal with his spectacles on his nose, who has sung for generations of students. He sings the old songs of the Quartier, and while we sip a white wine that costs us the equivalent of 3d. a glass, we listen to rollicking choruses, mostly about gentlemen who are deceived by their wives. A collarless figure in corduroys, a wood-carver whose name is known in art circles throughout Europe recites a poem in argot.

The atmosphere becomes thicker and thicker, until we can hardly see the wall in front for smoke. "Let us go; I am choking," exclaimed my friend, who had asked me to show him the Latin Quarter. "And if that's Bohemia," he said, as he filled his lungs with the chill night air in the dark street, "let's go to Montmartre."

## MALES PREFERRED.

For the non-Chinese community the ratio of male to female children born in the Colony last year was 112 to 100.

For the Chinese community the ratio was 198 males to 100 females.

In his annual report the Medical Officer of Health says: "The Chinese are careless of the registration of births, and the great disproportion between male and female births registered indicates that there is less care for the registration of females than for male births."

Last year 123 British children were born, 88 Portuguese, 51 Indian, and 4 American.

Normal telegraphic communication with Peking and Tientsin has been re-established.

The mean maximum temperature in Hongkong last year was 78.8 and the mean minimum 68.8. A total rainfall of 98.57 inches was registered.

Of the 90 cases of diphtheria notified last year, 63 were Chinese. The deaths totalled 40, of which only one was non-Chinese.

The incidence of cerebro-spinal fever in the Colony last year was slight, there being 31 cases, as against 107 cases in 1923 and 53 in 1922—the latter figure being the lowest since the disease made its first appearance here in 1913, when there were 1,232 cases.

No case of cholera was notified last year. Cases of this disease are liable to be imported from time to time, but except under special conditions—as, for example, when an extreme shortage of water coincides with the prevalence of cholera in the neighbouring districts of China—it is not usual for cholera to assume epidemic proportion here.

Tetanus and convulsions accounted for 169 deaths of children under five years of age last year. Thus out of 101 deaths ascribed to tetanus, 38 were of children under one month and five of children over one month and under one year. Convulsions accounted for 79 deaths of children under five years of age. Of these three were under one month and 40 over one month but under one year of age.

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TO BUY QUALITY TOYS FOR  
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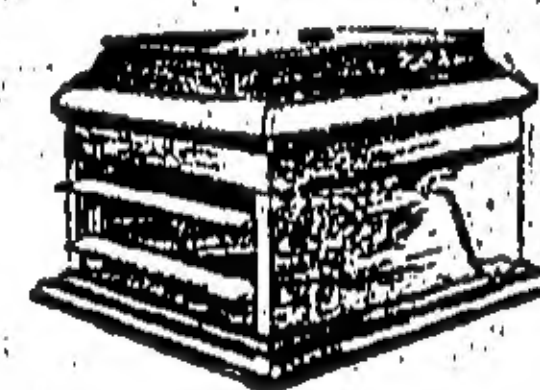
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## NEW YEAR HAMPERS.

We beg to notify Customers that Assorted Hampers suitable for the Festive Season may be obtained from us at the following Reduced Rates:—

No. 1 HAMPER.

- 1 Qt. Moët & Chandon Dry Imperial Champagne
- 1 Pt. Blackberry Brandy
- 1 D.O.M.
- 1 Qt. Martell's XXX Brandy
- 2 Qts. King George IV. or Perfection Whisky
- 1 Qt. Superb Tawny Port
- 2 Qts. St. Julien Claret
- 1 Qt. Old Brown Sherry R.S.
- 1 " D.C.L. Old Tom or Dry Gin
- 1 " Burgoyne's Burgundy
- 1 phial Pomeroy's Bitters

\$36.

No. 2 HAMPER.

- 1 Qt. Goulemont Champagne
- 1 Pt. D.O.M.
- 1 Qt. Burgoyne's Burgundy
- 1 Martell's XXX Brandy
- 2 Qts. King George IV. or Perfection Whisky
- 2 " Tawny Dry Port
- 2 " St. Julien Claret
- 1 Qt. D.C.L. Old Tom or Dry Gin
- 1 " Vln de Pato Sherry
- 1 phial Pomeroy's Bitters

\$30.

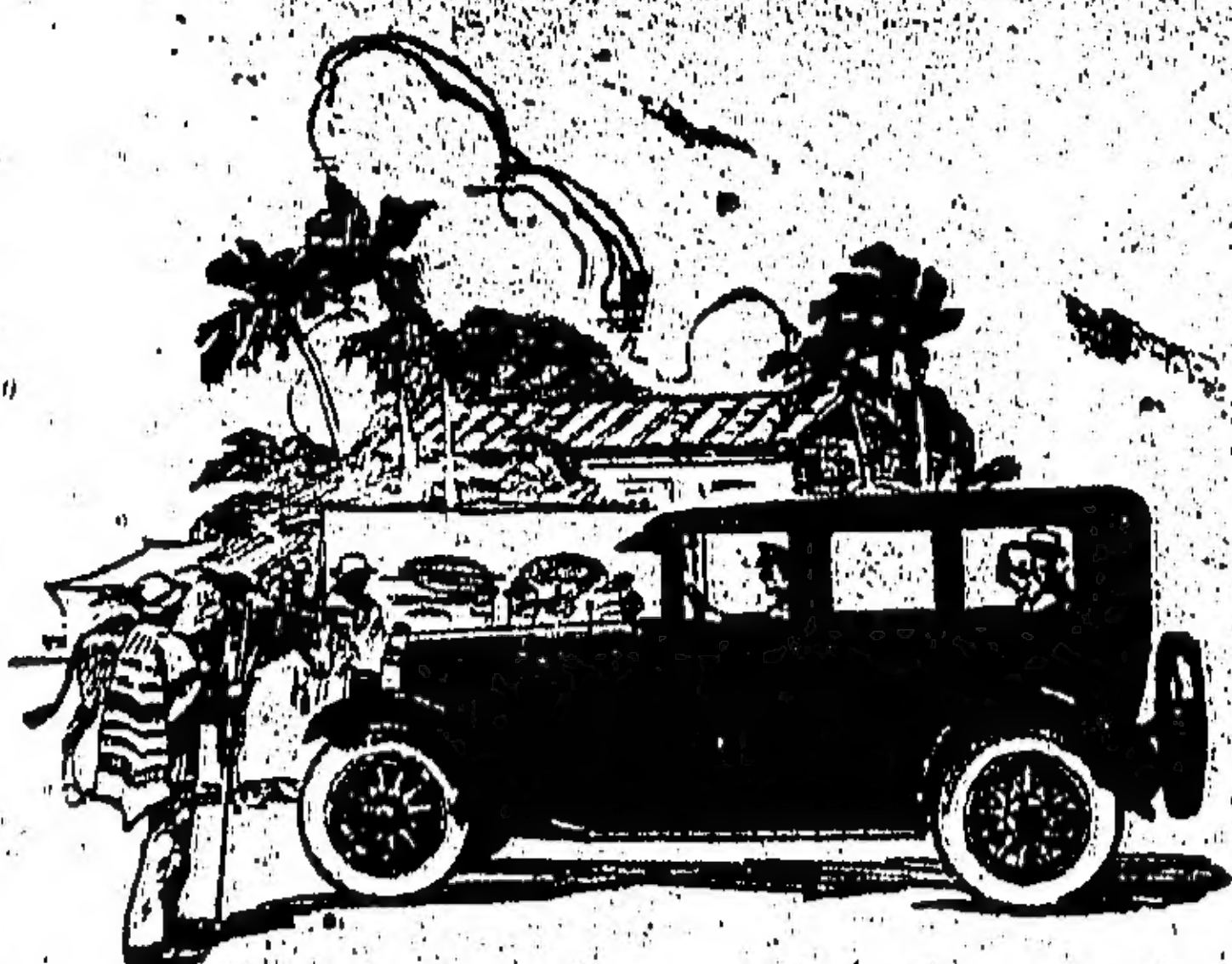
No. 3 HAMPER.

- 1 Qt. Burgoyne's Burgundy
- 1 Pt. D.O.M.
- 1 Qt. Martell's XXX Brandy
- 2 Qts. King George IV. or Perfection Whisky
- 1 " Amouillou's Sherry R.S.
- 1 " D.C.L. Old Tom or Dry Gin
- 1 " Vln de Pato Sherry
- 1 phial Pomeroy's Bitters

\$28.

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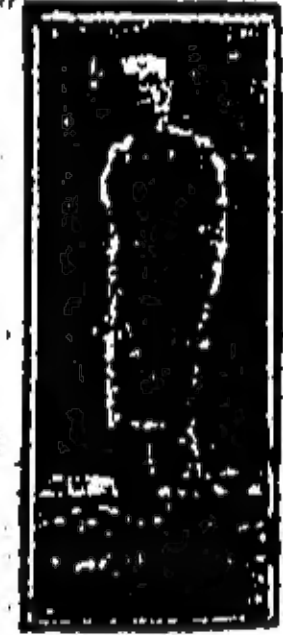
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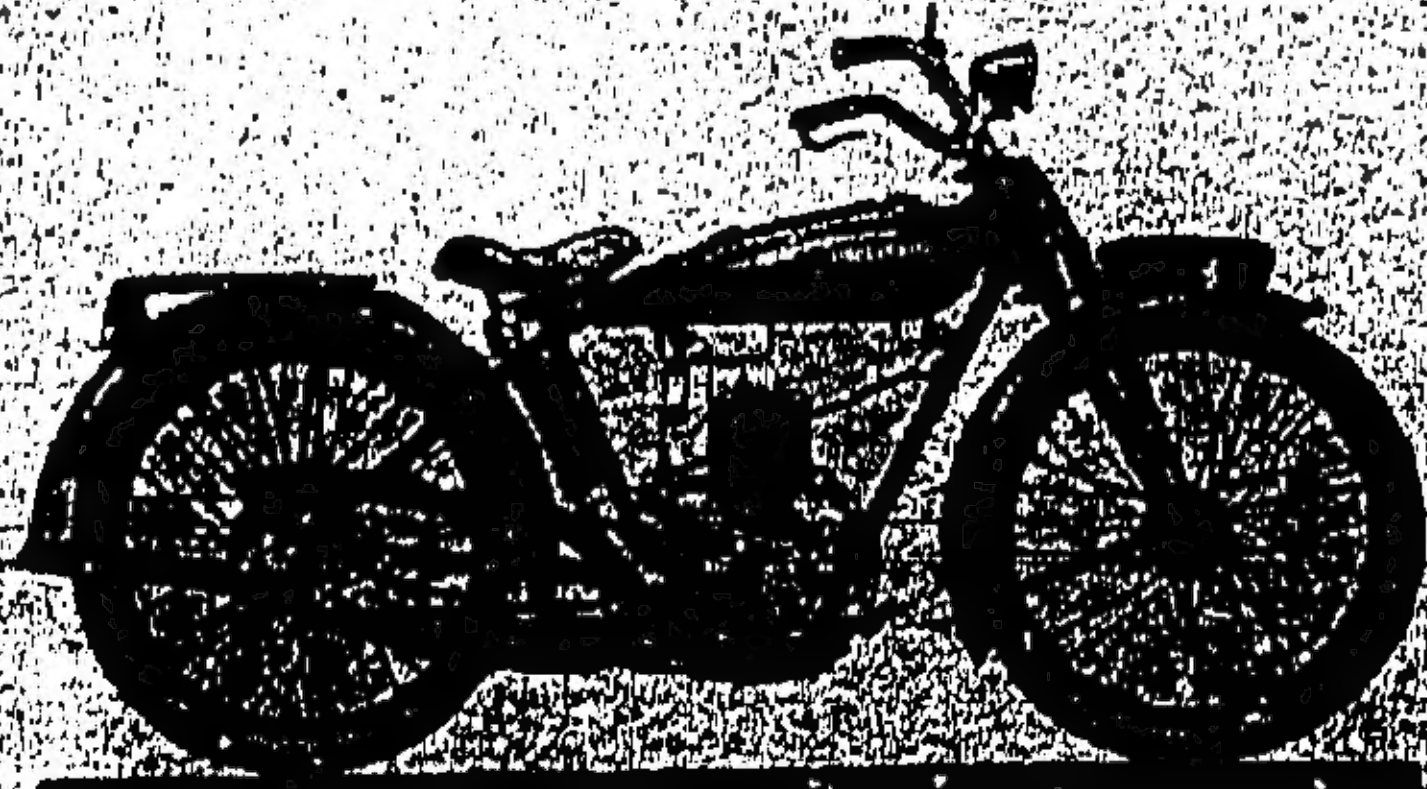
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## LOCAL AND GENERAL

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending December 12, 1924, amounted to 72,082 tons, and the sales during the period to 67,431 tons.

The growing popularity of radio in Japan is causing the phonograph and record prices to fall since the demand has taken a big drop. One company is advertising a 20 per cent. reduction in the price of a well-known foreign make of records, and it is expected that similar action will be taken by Japanese manufacturers.

The only cases of notifiable disease extending over four days to December 27 were one (British) imported case of small-pox, one British case of diphtheria, and one Chinese case of cerebro-spinal fever.

Unemployment in the 21 leading cities of Japan amounted to 105,595 on November 1, according to a report of the Census Bureau. On November 1 Tokyo had 39,000 unemployed; Osaka 18,000; Yokohama 9,000; Kobe 8,100; Nagoya 4,900; and Kyoto 8,000. Of the unemployed 44,065 were of the labouring class and 20,178 were of the professional class. Tokyo had about 12,000 unemployed manual workers, Osaka slightly more than 10,000, Yokohama 4,400, Kobe 3,300 and Nagoya 1,800.

A husband's love of books has been his domestic undoing, according to the story his wife told to the Willesden magistrate. "Until two years ago," she said, "he was all that a husband could be, but he has taken to reading. Dickens, Arnold Bennett and Marie Corelli, and ever since he has been a changed man. He sits poring over books all day, won't work, and when he gets the dole he makes me sign a receipt for the little he hands over to me." The husband Charles Langouron, a French waiter, of Parker's buildings, Holborn, was summoned for deserting his wife and five children. He was ordered to pay 20s. a week.

The K.C.C.'s annual Children's sports, are to be held on New Year's day.

Messrs. Lamont Bros. will sell the steam launch "Wing Fat" at their auction rooms tomorrow.

There will be no Ceylon pearl fishery for several years. Dr. Joseph Pearson, the Marine Biologist, has just returned from an inspection of the pearl oyster banks, which have been denuded of oysters.

Japan is to have an electric power generating station of 70,000 kilowatt capacity with the installation of a second 35,000 kilowatt unit in the Nagoya power house of the Toho Denryoku, according to an announcement by the International General Electric Company, which is to provide much of the equipment.

Religious and educational leaders have started a movement to have the Election law enacted by the last Japanese Diet altered so that persons who have served prison terms might acquire the franchise. As the law stands, persons who have served more than six years in prison are deprived of the vote and those who have served prison terms of shorter duration acquire the right to vote five years after release.

An Italian opera troupe composed of more than 60 singers and musicians will visit Tokyo in March of next year to appear at the Impresario Theatre under the direction of Signor A. Carpi, the impresario, who brought a similar opera troupe early this year. The coming troupe is not the same company of singers who visited Japan last spring. The troupe is coming prepared to give more than 20 pieces, including "Aida," "Traviata," "Rigoletto," and "Carmen." The Impresario Theatre enjoyed a full house almost every evening when the Carpi company appeared in March. The theatre management says that the Impresario Theatre has decided to have an opera season every year.

Japanese varieties of that "loveliest of trees," the cherry, are to be sent from Tokyo and planted in the L.C.C. parks and open spaces.

When a German editor can go right into court and boldly say a son of Wilhelm every one can see that something has happened in Germany. Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Many people, says a Home writer, are wondering whether the passing of Queen Alexandra will inspire the present Post Laureate to the writing of a commemorative elegy.

In order to obtain photographs for his new book on the golden eagle, Seton Gordon and his wife spent over 200 hours in a hiding tent beside an eagle's eyrie and established the fact that eagles at times capture squirrels and feed their young on them.

A special provision of \$291,641 was passed at the Federal Council to cover the loss in working the timber department of the F.M.S. Railway. When the department ceased work there was quite a large stock of timber left alongside the lines. Mr. Choo Kia-peng, a member of the railway board, said that the loss was illegitimate. The work undertaken appears to have been on a too ambitious scale.

Twelve words of Burns' manuscript fetched \$5 at Sotheby's. The fragment was written in praise of Colia, in Ayshire, of which the poet said: "Farewell, old Colia's hills and dale; Her healthy moors and winding vales."

An autograph poem to the "Uccio Guid," in eight stanzas, sold for \$385, and another poem to Miss Jane Ferrier, afterwards Mrs. General Grahame, realised \$275. The sale was of rare books and manuscripts, and a total of \$12,364 was realised, about \$2,000 being paid for various Burns' items.

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

The engagement is announced of Miss Alice Lau to Mr. Richard Shim. Mr. Shim is headmaster of Ying Wa College.

The name of the Japanese Imperial grand-child, Princess Teru-no-miya, Shigeko, was entered in the records of the Imperial Family on the 15th inst.

Dr. John Mott of the Y.M.C.A., now visiting Japan, is described by the Japanese Press as "America's Living Christ," and the "Napoleon of the Spiritual World."

The marriage of Mr. R. Phipps, of Messrs. Cay Tek and Co., Penang, a son of Mr. J. H. Phipps, and Miss Eileen da Silva, took place at the Church of the Assumption, Penang, on Boxing Day.

News was received by the last mail that Mr. A. W. K. Money, late of the A.P.C. Kuala Lumpur, has accepted an important post with the Anglo-Persian Oil Co. and is now on his way to the Persian Gulf.

The death of Mr. Vagn Gleasing occurred on the night of the 15th in a tragic manner. He was travelling on the night express from Yokohama to Kobe when he fell out of the train near Kozu and was killed. He left Kobe for Yokohama on business. Apparently nobody saw the accident and no details as to how it happened are yet available.

Mr. Eric Rice, Assistant Special Commissioner of the Overseas League, arrived in Penang on his way to the Far East during a tour for the League. He stayed at the Raffles Hotel, after which he left for Alor Star and Bangkok.

The Overseas League is the strongest non-party organisation of the day whose object is to link up British subjects living in all parts of the world, and to promote a closer fellowship among members of the British Empire. The League, which provides a free library, is now in the process of raising funds to enable it to extend its work to the Chinese and Japanese.

The K.C.C. has just received a large consignment of books from the British Library, which will be sold at a special sale at the K.C.C. rooms. The books are of various kinds, including history, science, and literature, and are of great value.

Mr. D. J. Marquess, a retired police inspector, who has been planning for some time since his retirement from Government service, has left Seremban for Australia.

Lt. C. F. Clarke and C. L. Robertson, who arrived in Shanghai by the F. & O. s.s. "Macedonia," have been detailed respectively to H.M.S. "Durban" and H.M.S. "Despatch."

Marshal Sun Chuan-fang has issued orders for the removal of the various military branches in Shanghai apart from the Martial Law Bureau. Several offices at the railway station have been transferred to Hsuehchow.

The Bank of Taiwan, Ltd., announce that Mr. Tetsuji Takagi has been appointed manager of its Hongkong branch in succession to Mr. Zenji Yamamoto, who is transferred to the Tokyo office. Mr. Tetsuji Takagi has already assumed office.

Friends of Mr. William Buckley, of Lees, who was for some time manager of Messrs. J. Lewellyn and Co., Ltd., will be delighted to hear that he has been successful in the final examination, held recently, of the Royal College of Surgeons and Royal College of Physicians, London. Dr. Buckley returned from China five years ago, and since then has studied at the largest hospital in London, the London Hospital, Whitechapel. He was formerly a student of Hulse Grammar School, Oldham, and Manchester Grammar School.

A little while ago Lord Darnley, president of the Church Army, communicated with the Governor-General and the Administrator of British Colonies and Protectorates, regarding an empty stamp album with a request that it should be filled with stamps suitable for collectors which could be sold for the benefit of the Church Army.

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Professor Einstein has been awarded the Copley medal by the Royal Society for his work on relativity.

Mr. W. Pimley, manager of the Commercial Pacific Cable Co., has just returned to Shanghai after an absence of several months.

Patrol Leader Kechick of the First Teluk Anson A.C.S. Troop, has been awarded the silver cross for life-saving. The presentation will be made by H.E. the Sultan of Perak at the Scouts Jamboree to be held at Ipoh on January 3 or 4.

His election as Master of the Musicians' Company will not give Mr. Henry D. Truscott quite such autocratic authority as was enjoyed by some of his predecessors in office. For more than three centuries the master of the Musicians was the supreme authority for the regulation of public performances of music in London, and a fine of forty shillings was the penalty of performing without his permission. Nominally he has still the right to levy a fine on unauthorised musicians, but unfortunately lacks power to enforce his authority.

According to returns of the gas industry which have just been compiled, the installation of gas cookers in housing schemes and new property in the British Isles is proceeding at the rate of nearly 400,000 a year. The number of gas cookers and griddles purchased or on hire from gas undertakings alone in the British Isles at the end of 1924 was 5,450,093. This figure does not include the many thousands of gas cooking appliances purchased by housewives direct from the makers and from foreign mongers and dealers.

Mr. W. H. Williams, on November 27, attended the marriage of Miss M. E. Williams, daughter of Mr. W. H. Williams, of Oxford, and Mr. R. C. Williams, of London.

The K.C.C. has just received a large consignment of books from the British Library, which will be sold at a special sale at the K.C.C. rooms. The books are of various kinds, including history, science, and literature, and are of great value.

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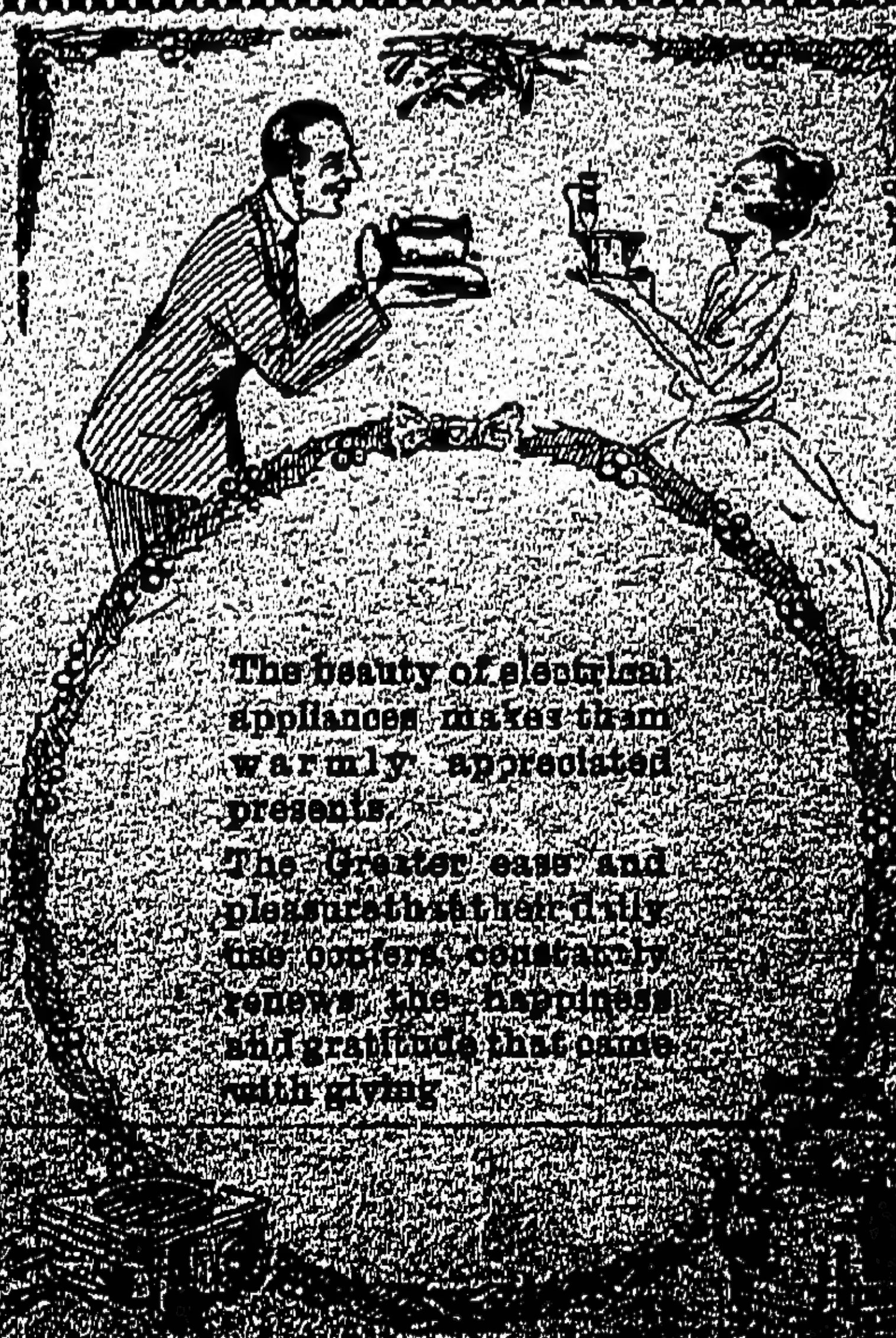
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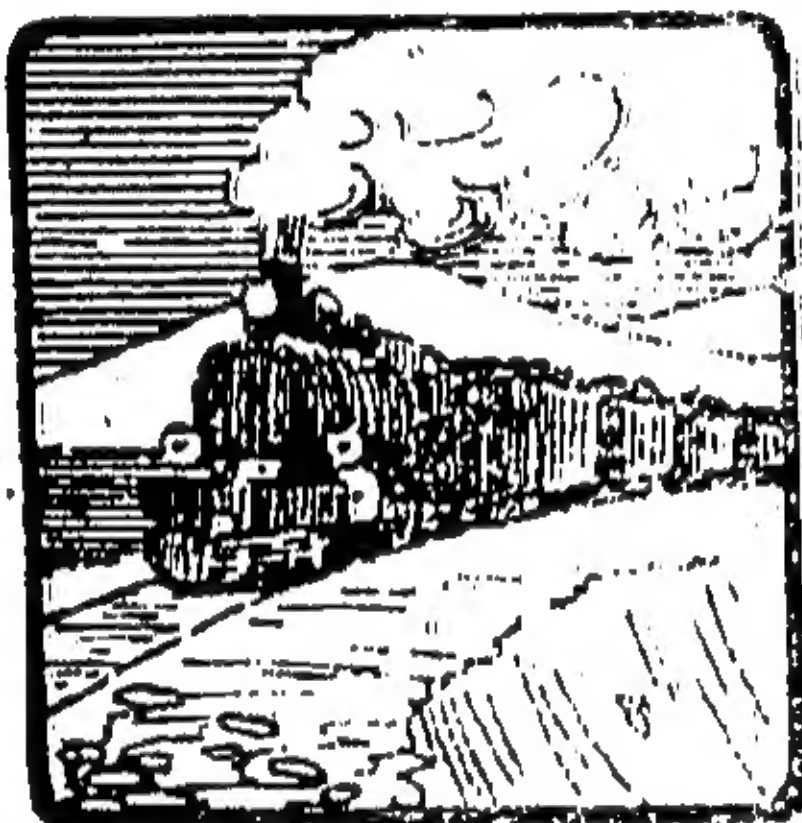
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## People and Events in the News of the World

A GLIMPSE INTO THE LONG AGO.



Here is the late Queen Alexandra in bridal costume with the late King Edward.



LIEUT.-COL. WALTER GUINNESS

Lieut.-Col. Walter Guinness succeeded Mr. F. L. Wood as Minister of Agriculture following Mr. Wood's appointment as Viceroy of India.

EGG MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD.



Roy Chapman Andrews has brought back from Mongolia forty dinosaur eggs, some of them ten million years old. Here he is examining one of his finds. He also found skulls and skeletons of the dinosaurs.

IN THE NEWS OF THE DAY.



EDWIN GOULD



MRS. MINA VAN WINKLE



LIEUT. D. DUKE



FREDERICK HOOVER

Edwin Gould, by the findings of a referee, has been held liable with the other trustees for the loss of \$50,000,000 by the estate of the late Jay Gould. Mrs. Mina Van Winkle, head of the International Association of Policewomen, blames parents for the prevalent delinquency of children. Lieut. D. Duke, of the air service, flew 170 miles in eighty minutes to testify at Washington for Col. Mitchell. The Radio Conference has delegated to Secretary Hoover unprecedented regulation over a business which has an annual turnover of millions of dollars.

STUNT MAN THRILLS THROG.



Even if Al Johnson did ride this bike 3,000 feet in the air, "safety first" was his motto. For he wore a parachute as a precaution in the event of separating himself from the speeding plane.

WAR LORD.



WU KUANG-HSIN

Wu Kuang-hsin, Chinese Minister of War, received a royal welcome when he reached Tokyo to witness the Japanese military manoeuvres.

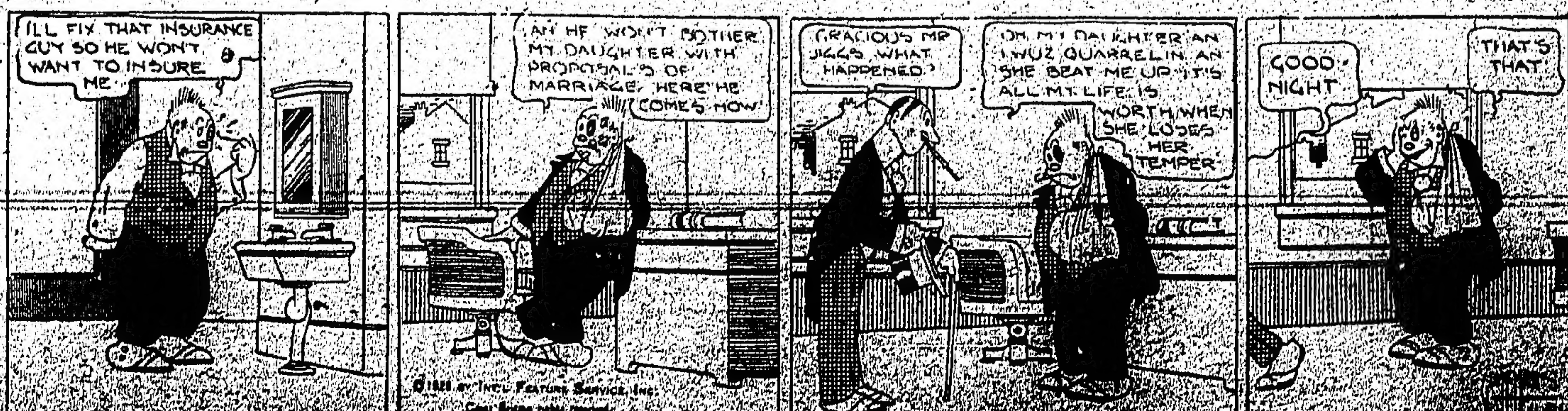
BRINGING UP FATHER.

YOU

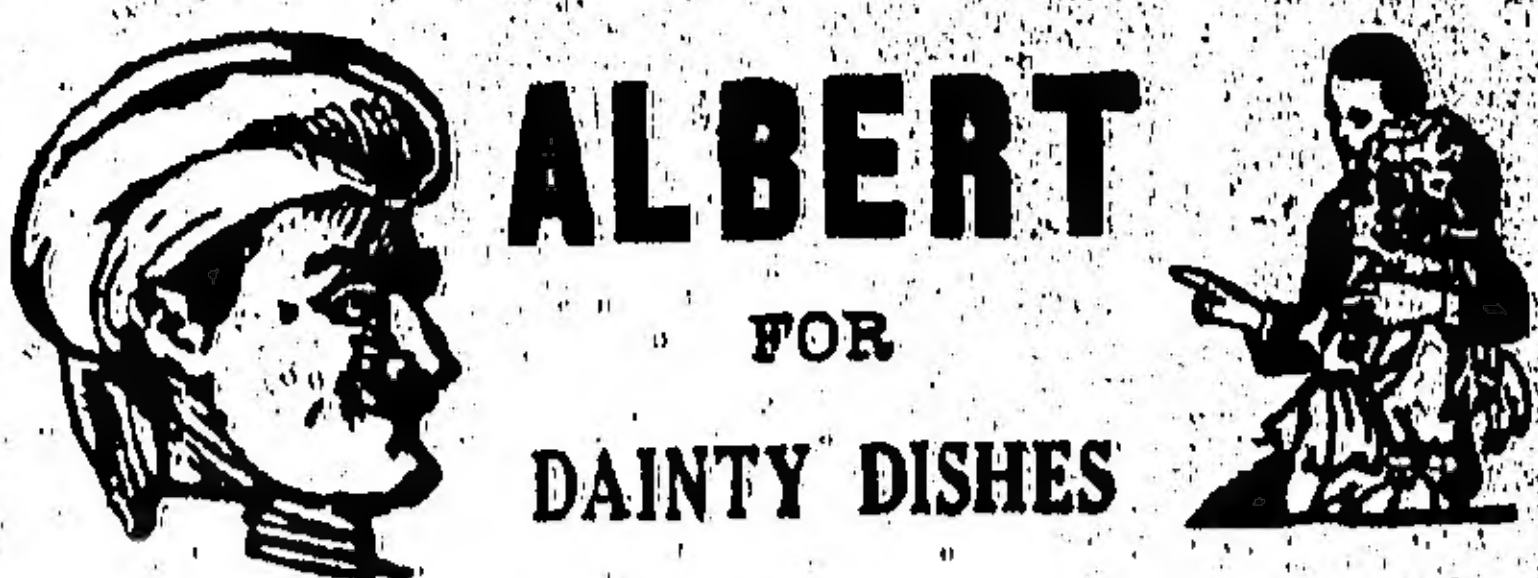
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# ODDS AND ENDS

## Great Possessions.

One of the wealthiest women in England, Lady Louis Mountbatten, has just had an addition to her possessions in the shape of the magnificent Park Lane house whose tenancy she has enjoyed for a long time (says a writer in the "Weekly Dispatch"). It belonged to her aunt, Mrs. Cassel, and at her recent death passed to Lady Louis for her life. Not only is the house very fine in itself, but it is filled with innumerable art treasures collected by her grandfather, the late Sir Ernest Cassel. Lady Louis has one small daughter, Patricia, who is growing out of babyhood into the toddling stage, and is a very pretty child.

## Air Force Could Spray Wheat.

"Group Captain J. S. Scott, Director of the Air Branch, has just returned to Ottawa from a tour of the Western Provinces, where he has been inspecting the work of his branch in land and water patrol, and he is convinced that the Ottawa correspondent of the "Toronto Globe," that air aid to the grain grower could be made practicable, and at a reasonable cost. If millions of dollars are lost annually through the ravages of rust, he argues, a million dollars, or even less, spent to enable the Air Force to do spraying would mean a big saving to the farmers. On most of the trips I took in Manitoba," said Capt. Scott recently, "we exposed slices at various altitudes to determine the extent of the rust. There should be no reason why the Air Force could not be used for spraying the wheat, just as aircraft are used in the Southern States to save cotton crops. Tremendous areas could be covered, and the cost would be slight compared with the value of the preventive work done."—"The Canadian

## Moses—His Mark?

Professor Grimme, of Münster University, who believes that he has succeeded in reading the inscription on the Mount Sinai tablet into a sentence written by Moses, told his audience in Berlin that when he made the discovery his heart nearly stopped beating from excitement. He writes the "Manchester Guardian" London correspondent. An eminent scholar at the British Museum who was consulted about the discovery was quite calm. He stated in effect that he didn't believe it. At any rate, no other scholar than Dr. Grimme has managed to decipher the inscription. This authority showed the inquirer a book in which Dr. Grimme first put forward his theory, so that it does not appear to be new. Still more decisive

is the opinion of the leading authority on the point, Professor Flinders Petrie, who discovered the inscribed tablets in 1905 on the slopes of Mount Sinai. Professor Petrie thinks that Professor Grimme's reading is "quite unsafe" and without proof as yet. The inscription is a jumble of signs containing Egyptian hieroglyphics as well as signs in common use in the Mediterranean. The signs the German reads as the name of the queen are, he says, "accidental marks." To the untutored eye the inscription looks like a mixture of picture writing and unmeaning wavy lines. If Professor Grimme is right he has established the historical reality of Moses and the truth of the famous Bible story. According to him the inscription reads: "I, Manasseh, captain over the stone-workers and chief of the temple, thank Hatshepsut-su, daughter of Pharaoh, for having pulled me out of the Nile and had me to high honour." One can only record the emphatic scepticism of the high authority of the British Museum, who, by the way, knows nothing of the reported willingness of the British Government to help in an expedition to Mount Sinai to tackle the problem afresh.

## Concerning Women.

"Woman, lovely Woman," as Mr. Turveydrop would say, "what a sex you are!" It has always been the pastime of moralists both male and female (since Mrs. Malaprop and her orthodoxy must not be forgotten) to express their opinions on the duties and capacities of the feminine sex; and it is hardly to be wondered at that Miss Rose Macaulay has at last entered a protest against these flattering debates, says the "Sunday Times." Miss Macaulay contemptuously waiving the attentions of Mr. Austin Harrison might be compared with Elizabeth Bennett rejecting the addresses of Mr. Collins. "Do not consider me now," she says, "as an elegant female, intending to plague you, but as a rational creature, speaking the truth from her heart." Indeed, women, though they doubtless feel themselves honoured in being thus singled out, are unlikely to be moved by discussion; and in the majority of cases they are equally indifferent to blame and to praise. Mr. Ludovici may prophesy a massacre of males without altering the course of a single life; and what sensible woman would require to be vindicated? It might, however, be hinted that Miss Macaulay has herself tripped in protesting; for where injury is done, to what end contention?

## Mr. Lenglen's Father.

I am sorry to hear that Suzanne Lenglen's father is unwell, and that he has been ordered a rest by his doctors. He is a man of considerable ability and charm with a very deep affection for his daughter (says a writer in the London "Evening News"). Mr. Lenglen, who is now in Austria, is to visit the South of France before coming to England, where she is expected at the Eastern Counties' Tournament at the Covered Courts at Cromer. The Duke of York will be in the neighbourhood of Norwich during the tournament and is to look in and see some of the games. These courts are the only covered ones in England outside London. There are, however, some in Wales and Scotland.

## Another Northern Trip.

Although the Duke and Duchess of York are expected to come South where they both have a number of duties to perform in the near future, the Duchess will not be long away from her native country (observes a "Daily Chronicle" writer). She has arranged to go North again this autumn to open the bazaar that is being staged in Edinburgh on behalf of the fund being raised to endow the birthplace of Robert Louis Stevenson. The Duchess also intends to make several visits to Glamis Castle, the home of her parents, the Earl and Countess of Strathmore, and her husband will accompany her as often as possible on these expeditions. The Duchess, who is very fond of Scotland, confesses that it would be a strain if she had to remain for too long a time away from it.

## Red Sea and Blue Nile.

Many people to whom the East is always a source of romance will probably have learnt a good deal of the strange and fascinating land that lies between the Red Sea and the Blue Nile from the lectures Rosita Forbes gave about her last journey (says an "Evening Standard" writer). Now her book on the same momentous journey has just been published by Cassell and tells still more about this mysterious Ethiopia. Mrs. Rosita Forbes is one of those lucky people who can write in practically any place or under any conditions. Most of "From Red Sea to Blue Nile" was actually written when she was on her journey. However tired she was after a day's hard riding along unmade roads she would sit down in the evening and write page after page of her diary, which was the foundation for this book.

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## HONGKONG HEIGHTS.

For the information of visitors the following list of some of the highest points on the Island and Mainland is published:—

Island.	Feet.
Victoria Peak	1828
Signal Station	1774
Mt. Parker	1754
Mountain Lodge	1725
The Eyrie	1725
Peak Hotel	1805
Taikoo Sanatorium	1000
Mt. Davis	877
Bowen Rd. (filterbeds)	297
Mainland.	
Taimoshan	8124
Kowloon Peak	1971

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